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\* Admitted in TX only  
\*\* Admitted in CT only

December 10, 2004

MS Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Re: U.S. Patent Application No.: 10/709,131  
For: *RULE BASED SYSTEM & METHOD*  
Inventors: Johnson, Peter, *et al.*  
Filed: April 15, 2004  
Our Ref. No.: PZT-001

Dear Sir:

I enclose herewith for filing in the above-identified application the following:

1. Information Disclosure Statement;
2. PTO Form SB/08;
3. Copies of all references cited in PTO Form SB/08 (B1, C1-C4);
4. A Return Postcard.

No additional costs are believed to be due in connection with the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. However, please charge any necessary fees in connection with the enclosed statement to our Deposit Order Account No. 12-0080. For this purpose, a duplicate of this sheet is attached.

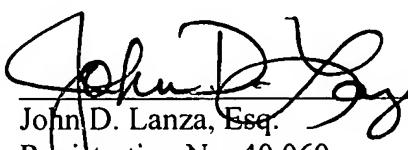
I hereby certify that this correspondence is deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: MS Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on:

December 10, 2004

Date

John D. Lanza, Esq. Registration No. 40,060

Respectfully submitted,  
LAHIVE & COCKFIELD, LLP



John D. Lanza, Esq.  
Registration No. 40,060  
Attorney for Applicants



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of: Johnson, Peter, *et al.*

Serial No.: 10/709,131

Filed: April 15, 2004

For: *RULE BASED SYSTEM & METHOD*

Attorney Docket No.: PZT-001

Group Art Unit: 2121

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

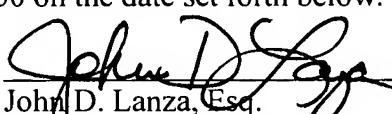
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Certificate of First Class Mailing (37 CFR §1.8(a))

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: MS Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on the date set forth below.

December 10, 2004  
Date of Signature and of Mail Deposit

By:

  
John D. Lanza, Esq.  
Registration No. 40,060  
Attorney for Applicants

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

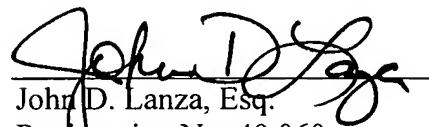
Applicants and their Attorney are aware of the following publications and information, listed on the attached PTO Form SB/08, and in accordance with 37 CFR §1.98 hereby submit these publications for the Examiner's consideration. A Copy of cited U.S. patent (Reference ID Nos. A1) is not enclosed with this statement and copies of foreign patent documents (Reference ID Nos. B1, C1-C4) are enclosed in accordance with 37 CFR 1.98.

This statement is not to be interpreted as a representation that the cited publications are material, that an exhaustive search has been conducted, or that no other relevant information exists. Nor shall the citation of any publication herein be construed *per se* as a representation that such publication is prior art. Moreover, Applicants understand that the Examiner will make an independent evaluation of the cited publications.

Under 37 CFR § 1.97(b)(3), no additional costs are believed to be due in connection with the filing of this disclosure. If, however, a first Office Action on the merits issues in this application bearing a mailing date prior to the date of this Information Disclosure Statement, please charge the appropriate fee as required under 37 CFR §1.17(p) to our Deposit Order Account No. 12-0080.

Date: December 10, 2004

Respectfully submitted,  
LAHIVE & COCKFIELD, LLP

  
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JDL/les  
Enclosures



Office No. PZT-001

**THE "RECEIVED" STAMP OF THE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
IMPRINTED HEREON ACKNOWLEDGES THE FILING OF:**

**Description of Paper\*:** Transmittal Letter (1 page, in duplicate), Information Disclosure Statement (2 pages), PTO Form SB/08 (1 page) and copies of all references cited therein (B1, C1-C4) are enclosed along with this postcard.

**Title:** *RULE BASED SYSTEM & METHOD*

**Name of Applicants:** Johnson, Peter, *et al.*

**Serial No.:** 10/709,131

**Atty:** JDL

**Date:** December 10, 2004

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PTO/SB/08a/b (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

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Substitute for form 1449A/B/PTO				<b>Complete if Known</b>	
				Application Number	10/709,131
				Filing Date	April 15, 2004
				First Named Inventor	Johnson, Peter
				Art Unit	2121
				Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	PZT-001

<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
A1	6,298,327 B1	10-02-2001	Hunter, <i>et al.</i>		

<b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)			
B1	WO 97/41524 A1	11-06-1997	IC2 Solutions, Inc.		T <sup>6</sup>

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

<b>NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS</b>					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.			T <sup>2</sup>
	C1	Bench-Capon, <i>et al.</i> An Experiment in Discovering Association Rules in the Legal Domain. IEEE Proceedings of 11 <sup>th</sup> International Workshop on Database & Expert Systems Applications. September 6-8, 2000. p. 1056.			
	C2	Johnson, Peter. Electronic Service Delivery: Achieving Accuracy and Consistency in Complex Transactions. National Conference of the Institute of Public Administration. Australia. November, 1998.			
	C3	Vanthienen, J., <i>et al.</i> Restructuring and Simplifying Rule Bases. IEEE Proceedings of 7 <sup>th</sup> International Conference on Tools with Artificial Intelligence. November, 1995.			
	C4	International Search Report for PCT/AU02/01380 mailed November 14, 2002 (1 page).			

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Examiner Signature		Date Considered
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